One School, One Theme

For this summer’s reading, you will read *The Call of The Wild* (Timeless Classics version) in order to be part of the One School, One Theme of persevering toward one’s dreams.

**Book synopsis**

“Buck is much bigger and stronger than the other dogs. But he wasn't born to the savage life of the Alaskan frontier. Is it too late for him to learn the "law of club and fang"? Can he survive the bitter weather, a vicious rival, and the deadly mistakes of his bungling owners?”

Through the eyes of ‘Buck’ the reader is able to see how his dream was realized and fulfilled throughout a variety of ways, however doing something different made this dream difficult to achieve. We can make a connection from Buck to our own lives and to those around us. How do we fit in to this global society?

**While Reading Over the Summer**

- You MUST complete *The Call of The Wild* chapter packet.
- Think about the questions listed below.

**Upon Returning to School**

- Your chapter packets will be collected.
- You will complete in-class assignments that will look at the following questions:
  - What challenges did Buck face?
  - How did Buck persevere through his struggles both internally (man vs himself) and with the outside world (man vs man, man vs nature, etc)?
  - How did Buck’s perseverance contribute to the meaning of the work as a whole (i.e. How would the novel been different if the challenges he went through did not take place?)?

**Where can I find the abridged version**

- If you search: “Call of the Wild Timeless Classics” you can also find the abridged novel at: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, ebay, etc
- If you are struggling to find the novel please reach out to Ms. Cole (tcole@shschools.com)
A. Circle the word that correctly completes each statement.

1. In 1897, gold was discovered in the (Santa Clara Valley / Klondike).
2. Many of Judge Miller's dogs lived in (kennels / arbors).
3. Buck carried the Judge's (servants / grandchildren) on his back.
4. Buck's father had been the Judge's constant (companion / groom).
5. (Elmo / Manuel) was a gardener's helper at Judge Miller's place.
6. Buck thought he was taking a walk through the (orchard / pastures).
7. Manuel put a piece of thick rope under Buck's (legs / collar).
8. Buck accepted the rope with quiet (determination / dignity).
9. When the stranger tightened the rope, Buck struggled in a (fury / furry) of surprise and anger.

B. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
2. Gold-seekers needed dogs with strong ______.
4. Manuel's _____ could not support his gambling.
5. Two men threw Buck into a _____ car.
7. In 1897, gold was discovered in the _____.

DOWN
1. Buck was born on Judge Miller's great ______.
3. Buck felt _____ when the men teased him.
6. A precious metal, _____, had been discovered in the Northland.
A. Help! Someone has mixed up the characters and locations in the sentences. Rewrite the sentences correctly on the back of this sheet.

1. Trouble was coming for every strong dog from Puget Sound to Santa Clara.

2. Judge Miller had a terrible weakness—he loved to gamble.

3. The Judge’s daughters, Toots and Ysabel, would take Buck with them on early morning walks.

4. Buck’s mother, Elmo, was a Scotch shepherd.

5. Judge Miller’s place was in the sunny San Diego Valley.

6. Buck’s father, Shep, was a Saint Bernard.

7. Manuel went to a meeting of the Raisin Growers’ Association.

8. Some dogs, such as Mollie and Alice, lived in hidden corners of the house.

B. Write T or F to show whether each statement is true or false.

1. ____ Big dogs were needed in the frozen Southland.

2. ____ Gold had been discovered in the Klondike.

3. ____ Judge Miller’s place was called College Park.

4. ____ The stranger threw Buck over on his back.

5. ____ Money was passed between Alice and Manuel.
THE CALL OF THE WILD • CHAPTER 2
WORDS AND MEANINGS

NAME __________________________ DATE ______________________

A. Write a word from the box under the definition it matches.

| waterfront | cower | express | rabies |
| cunning | bristled | crate | mistreat |

1. to pull away in fear __________________________

2. ocean’s edge where docks and wharves are __________________________

3. hair stood up stiffly __________________________

4. slyness; skill at trickery __________________________

5. disease animals can transmit to humans __________________________

6. fast transportation; makes few stops __________________________

7. box made of wooden slats __________________________

8. to abuse; deal with harshly __________________________

B. Use clues to complete the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

1. The kidnapper worried that Buck would give him _____.

5. Buck would need all of his _____ to face his new life.

6. Buck’s crate was put into an _____ railroad car.

7. The kidnapper took Buck to the San Francisco _____.

DOWN

2. Buck _____ at the touch of the man in the red sweater.

3. Buck couldn’t understand why anyone would _____ him.

4. Buck was flung into a _____ that was like a cage.

5. To Buck it would never be necessary to _____ before men.

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First complete the lines from the story with a word from the box. Then number the events to show the order in which they happened.

shriek bartender primitive crates mistreat
file suffering recognized shed senses

1. ____ Buck’s ________________ slowly came back to him, but not his strength.

2. ____ Buck was in a little ________________ in back of a bar on the San Francisco waterfront.

3. ____ More dogs arrived in ________________ and at the end of ropes.

4. ____ The lack of water caused Buck great ________________.

5. ____ The loud ________________ of a train whistle told Buck where he was.

6. ____ Buck knew the man in the red sweater would be the next one to ________________ him.

7. ____ So changed was Buck that the Judge himself would not have ________________ him.

8. ____ Finally the men were able to ________________ the heavy brass collar from Buck’s neck.

9. ____ The club was Buck’s introduction to the rule of ________________ law.

10. ____ That night the stranger told a ________________ what had happened.
Answer the questions in your own words. Write in complete sentences.

1. How did Buck already "know the feeling of riding in a baggage car"?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Why did the stranger tell the baggage man that Buck "had fits"?

________________________________________________________________________

3. Why did the kidnapper worry that he might catch rabies?

________________________________________________________________________

4. What did the men in the express railroad car do that "outraged Buck's dignity"?

________________________________________________________________________

5. What "show" did the men who carried the crate want to watch?

________________________________________________________________________

6. How did the man in the red sweater know Buck's name?

________________________________________________________________________

7. What did the man in the red sweater mean when he told Buck, "Now you know your place"?

________________________________________________________________________

8. In what way was Buck "beaten but not broken"?

________________________________________________________________________
THE CALL OF THE WILD • CHAPTER 3
WORDS AND MEANINGS

A. Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
1. As he got to know François, Buck’s _____ of him improved.
4. Dave _____ and went to sleep, even though the ship was rolling.
5. For so fine a dog, $300 was not an unfair _____.
6. When the ship’s _____ was quiet, Buck knew that a change was at hand.
8. Perrault said that Buck was “One _____ dog!”
9. Spitz would smile while thinking up a _____ trick.

DOWN
2. Dave showed no interest in the _____, Buck and Curly.
3. The price of dogs shot up because of the _____.
5. The _____ little man who bought Buck was a French-Canadian.
7. When he was sold, Buck felt fearful of the _____.

B. Read the definitions. Unscramble the matching puzzle words.

1. NIPOONI __________________ : personal belief or judgment
2. ADDNEM __________________ : buyers’ desire for something
3. LUBYL __________________ : great, exceptional
4. WEANDY __________________ : took a deep, sleepy breath
5. MUS __________________ : an amount of money

C. Write a letter to match each puzzle word on the left with its antonym (opposite) on the right.

1. ____ scrawny a. bold
2. ____ future b. oldtimers
3. ____ newcomers c. past
4. ____ sneaky d. muscular
THE CALL OF THE WILD • CHAPTER 3

MAKING PREDICTIONS

NAME ___________________________ DATE ___________________________

A. Answer the questions in your own words.

1. When Buck saw money passed between strangers, he knew what would happen next. What was it?

2. The man in the red sweater was pleased when Perrault grinned. What did the man in the red sweater think would happen next?

3. When Buck saw that Perrault and François were “calm and even-handed,” what kind of treatment did he expect?

4. After Spitz tried to steal Buck’s food, what sort of behavior did Buck expect from Spitz?

5. Why did Buck pay little attention to Dave? What did he think Dave would do?

B. Each event described below is a clue to events you will read about in later chapters. Make a prediction based on each event in Chapter 3.

1. CLUE: Perrault thinks the messages of the Canadian government will not travel slower because of Buck.

   PREDICTION: ___________________________

2. CLUE: Buck knew that a change was at hand when he noticed the ship’s propeller was quiet.

   PREDICTION: ___________________________
A. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
1. Sol-leks _____ Buck’s shoulder to the bone.
2. _____ ripped Curley’s face open from eye to jaw.
3. Buck saw that, at every moment, life and limb were in ______.
4. Within Buck, long dead _____ came alive again.
5. The men and dogs were ______ who knew only the law of club and fang.
6. The savages knew no rule but the law of club and ______.
7. Buck had been jerked from the heart of ______.
8. It was as if Buck’s _____ were howling down through the centuries.

DOWN
1. _____ in the cold, Buck looked for a place to sleep.
2. A _____ ripped Curley’s face open from eye to jaw.
3. Trembling and shaking with cold
4. Advanced stage of human development
5. A possible danger
6. Wild, untamed beings
7. Natural abilities or talents

B. Write a word from the puzzle next to the definition it matches.

1. those who came before you in the family line
2. struck in a ripping, tearing way
3. long, pointed tooth of an animal
4. trembling and shaking with cold
5. advanced stage of human development
6. a possible danger
7. wild, untamed beings
8. natural abilities or talents
1. How did Buck feel about Spitz? What did Spitz do to make Buck feel that way?

2. Buck was alarmed for a moment when he first woke up in his snow nest. Explain why.

3. Did the dogs prefer breaking their own trail or running on a trail that had already been packed? Explain why.

4. What would happen to Buck if he couldn’t learn to “adapt to changing conditions”?

5. Why did Buck learn to eat his food ration as quickly as he could?

6. What was one “long dead instinct” that seemed to come alive in Buck?
A. Circle a letter to correctly complete each sentence.

1. Buck’s first day in the Northland was spent in a place called
   a. Miller’s estate.  
   b. Dyea Beach.  
   c. Seattle.

2. The dogs and men Buck met there were
   a. savages.  
   b. civilized.  
   c. French-Canadian.

3. Buck learned that the “wolf manner of fighting” was to
   a. attack from the rear.  
   b. punch with paws.  
   c. strike and leap away.

4. To make sure the dogs obeyed him, Francois used a
   a. stern voice.  
   b. hatchet.  
   c. whip.

5. What did Buck watch another dog steal?
   a. bacon.  
   b. salmon.  
   c. bread.

6. On “a good day’s run” a dog sled could cover
   a. 400 miles.  
   b. 14 miles.  
   c. 40 miles.

B. Explain each answer in your own words.

1. On his first night in camp, Buck couldn’t find the other dogs. Where were they?

2. Thousands of men had built boats at Lake Bennett. What had to happen before they could leave?

3. How were Dave and Sol-leks different on the trail than they were in camp?

4. What happened when Buck approached Sol-leks on his blind side?
A. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
1. _____ was a thing for gentler climates than the Northland.

4. François made four little _____ for Buck’s feet.

7. The men built a fire to _____ out the ice-coated dogs.

8. When its back was broken, the rabbit shrieked in _____.

DOWN
2. François brought Buck his _____ of fish.

3. Spitz sensed that Buck was a dangerous _____.

5. At night, each dog slept in a _____ in the snow.

6. In _____ Buck tried to sink his teeth into the white dog’s neck.

B. Write the word from the puzzle that matches each definition below.

1. when warmer temperatures make ice melt

2. a single portion or serving

3. extreme distress and pain

4. competitor for the same prize

5. unexpected kindness to an enemy

6. soft leather slippers

7. a snug place or shelter

8. without success; worthless
A. Complete each sentence with a character’s name from the box.

Dolly  Perrault  Spitz  Buck  Sol-leks  Dave

1. ______________________ felt his rule was threatened.

2. ______________________ was too busy getting used to his new life to feel at ease.

3. Side by side, Dave and ______________________ bravely fought the starving huskies.

4. Buck and ______________________ almost froze when the sled broke through the ice.

5. To make up for lost time, ______________________ pushed the tired dogs early and late.

6. ______________________ suddenly went mad and sprang straight for Buck.

B. Circle two words that describe each character.

1. Spitz  sneaky  fearful  vicious  starving
2. Buck  cautious  imaginative  weak  desperate
3. François  cruel  dangerous  watchful  hard-working
4. Sol-leks  young  one-eyed  friendly  battle-scarred
5. Perrault  fair  gigantic  wounded  experienced
6. Billie  lazy  terrified  crying  bitter
A. Write a word from the box under the definition it matches.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>examined</th>
<th>grumbled</th>
<th>zero</th>
<th>moody</th>
<th>whine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>retreated</td>
<td>judgment</td>
<td>traces</td>
<td>unruly</td>
<td>revolt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. to rebel or rise up against
2. not obedient; hard to control
3. straps of sled harness
4. having quick changes in feelings
5. thoughtful opinion or decision
6. point 0 in degree measurement
7. complained in a low, angry voice
8. inspected; looked over carefully
9. turned away; left the scene
10. long, high, sad sound

B. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS**
2. François fastened Buck’s ____ at the head of the team.
5. The drivers ____ that they needed more rest.
6. For some reason Dave became weak and ____.

**DOWN**
1. The temperature fell to 30 degrees below ____.
3. Thinking leadership was his right, Buck was in open ____.
4. During Spitz’s last days, the dog team had become ____.
SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Complete each sentence with a word from the box. Then number the events to show the order in which they happened.

passed gunshot loafing club team
record strength fury position gasping

1. ____ The team arrived in Skagway in _______________ time.
2. ____ Buck sprang at Sol-leks in a _______________ .
3. ____ After 1,800 miles of travel, the dogs were losing _______________ .
4. ____ Teek and Koona were added to the dog _______________ .
5. ____ The dogs heard a _______________ ring out back in camp.
6. ____ Buck took his _______________ at the head of the team.
7. ____ François came toward Buck with a _______________ in his hand.
8. ____ Buck punished Pike for _______________ .
9. ____ François and Perrault _______________ out of Buck’s life.
10. ____ Dave lay _______________ in the snow.
Just as in real life, no two characters have exactly the same point of view about what happens. Think about the following events from each character’s viewpoint. Then describe the different reactions of the characters.

1. After Spitz’s death, the position of lead dog had to be filled.

François’ viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

Buck’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

2. Dave is removed from the team and left free to run along behind.

The Scotchman’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

Dave’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

3. Buck retreats a few steps when Francois comes toward him with a club.

François’ viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

Buck’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

4. François puts Buck at the head of the team.

Dave and Sol-leks’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________

Buck’s viewpoint: __________________________

____________________________
A. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS
1. The outside dogs were _____ and frightened.
4. The dogs could not _____ such an overloaded sled.
7. Thornton found Buck in a state of near _____.
8. In a rage, Hal tried to _____ Buck with a club.
9. Hal called the dogs “lazy_____.”

DOWN
2. Buck sensed _____ ahead and refused to move.
3. Buck’s new _____ were Charles, Hal, and Mercedes.
5. Dub’s _____ shoulderblade went from bad to worse.
6. The sled’s back end dropped down, as if into a _____.
8. There was a steep _____ leading down to the main street.

B. Complete each sentence with a word from the puzzle.
1. Someone who dies of hunger dies from ____________.
2. A tornado is one example of a natural ____________.
3. A moving van can ____________ your furniture across the country.
4. It is fun to ski down a snowy ____________.
5. She turned too quickly and ____________ her back.
6. Well-trained animals obey their ____________.
7. A ____________ is a groove in the ground made by a wheel.
8. If you ____________ someone, you have lost your temper.
9. A crude, unmannerly person is sometimes called a ____________.
1. Buck watched Hal and Charles pack dirty dishes, clumsily roll up their tent, and overload the sled. **What conclusions did he draw?**

2. Why were Hal and Charles able to buy the dog team “for a song”?

3. Hal and Charles felt proud to have a team of 14 dogs. **Why did this turn out to be a bad idea?**

4. The dogs were unable to move the sled. **Why did Hal think that was so?**

5. John Thornton watched Hal whipping the exhausted dogs. **How did he feel about that? What did he do about it?**

6. Both Thornton and Buck watched Hal’s sled “disappear from sight.” **Where had the sled gone? How did they know?**
CAUSE AND EFFECT

Write a letter in the blank to match each cause on the left with its effect on the right.

1. ___ The dogs get one-half of their food ration.  
a. They feel timid and frightened.

2. ___ To make them pull harder, Hal whips the dog team.  
b. Hal’s sled sinks beneath the melting ice.

3. ___ The coming of spring brings blazing sunshine.  
c. The sled topples over, spilling its load.

4. ___ Hal refuses Thornton’s advice.  
d. He refuses to get up.

5. ___ Buck senses that disaster is just ahead.  
e. The dogs lose weight and suffer injuries.

6. ___ The outside dogs are too inexperienced to go out on the trail.  
f. The dogs become angry at their ill treatment.

7. ___ The townspeople in Skagway suggest “half the load and twice the dogs.”  
g. The outside dogs die off, one by one.

8. ___ The dog team dashes down the steep slope into town.  
h. Snow and ice begin to melt.

9. ___ After too little rest, it takes the dogs 30 days to reach Skagway.  
i. Hal is tripped and pulled off his feet.

10. ___ Hal and Charles overload the sled.  
j. Mercedes throws out many belongings.
A. Use a vocabulary word from the box to complete each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>tolerate</th>
<th>provoked</th>
<th>raft</th>
<th>partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>devotion</td>
<td>jealousy</td>
<td>unhitched</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Jon and Brandon are ________________ in their landscape business.
2. The boy ________________ a fight by teasing his sister.
3. Huckleberry Finn sailed a ________________ on the river.
4. Our teacher will not ________________ rude behavior.
5. True ________________ to another is shown by deeds, not words.
6. Sometimes the girl feels ________________ when her brother gets attention.
7. After plowing the field, the farmer ________________ the horses.

B. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS**

3. Thornton's dogs showed no ____ toward Buck.
4. Thornton's ____ headed up the river to deliver saw-logs.
5. Hans and Pete finally came back on the ____.
6. Buck's ____ to Thornton was easy to see.
7. Matthewson slammed down a bag of ____ ____ (two words) on the bar.

**DOWN**

1. Buck loved Thornton but only ____ Hans and Pete.
2. Matthewson ____ his team and put Buck in their place.
4. The people decided that Burton had ____ Buck into biting him.
1. What slowly happened to Buck as he “watched the running water and listened to the songs of birds and the hum of nature”?

2. What kind deed did Skeet do “just as tenderly as a mother cat washes her kittens”?

3. What did John Thornton do that made Buck feel “wild with happiness”?

4. Why did Buck “follow at the man’s heels all day long”? What was he afraid might happen?

5. When Buck “heard a mysterious call sounding from the forest,” what did he want to do?

6. What made Buck decide to “tolerate” Pete and Hans?

7. In what way was Buck injured when he rescued Thornton from the river rapids?

8. How could Matthewson be certain that the load on his sled weighed 1,000 pounds?
An idiom is a figurative expression. It has a different meaning from the usual meanings of the words used. The idiom “to catch one’s eye,” for example, means to get someone’s attention.

Read the boldfaced idioms from Chapter 8. Circle a letter to show its meaning.

1. “I’d hate to be the man who lays hands on Thornton when Buck’s around.”
   a. pats or hugs  
   b. grabs or hits  
   c. tries to heal

2. Burton had been picking a quarrel with another man at the bar.
   a. starting a fight  
   b. selecting a topic  
   c. hitting with a pick

3. Thornton’s bluff, if bluff it was, had been called.
   a. insults had been exchanged  
   b. proof had been demanded  
   c. charges had been made

4. From that day on, Buck’s name spread through every mining camp in Alaska.
   a. flowed like water  
   b. was printed on posters  
   c. was widely mentioned

5. Matthewson sensed that there was more easy money to be made.
   a. coins to be counterfeited  
   b. good pay for simple work  
   c. more bets to be won

6. The crowd from the Eldorado flowed out into the street.
   a. came out all at once  
   b. was caught in a flood  
   c. came one at a time, like drops of water
Read the boldfaced lines from the story. Then write about a similar event in your own life.

1. **Blackie was a huge, good-natured dog with eyes that laughed.**
   
   Have you ever known a dog with *laughing eyes*? Name the dog and describe its facial expression in detail.

2. **With the continued warm weather, Buck’s limp finally left him.**
   
   Have you or someone you know ever had a *limp*? How were you hurt? How long did it take to get well?

3. **Thornton would shake the big dog and call him names Buck took for love names.**
   
   Who calls you *love names*? What love names are you called?

4. **Flung out of the boat, Thornton headed for a stretch of wild water in which no swimmer could survive.**
   
   Have you ever been afraid of drowning? What happened? Have you ever been *rescued* from another kind of danger?

5. **“Can you lend me $1,000?” Thornton whispered to Jim O’Brien.**
   
   Have you ever had to *borrow* money? Why did you need it? Who *loaned* you the money?
THE CALL OF THE WILD - CHAPTER 9

WORDS AND MEANINGS

A. Read the definitions. Unscramble the matching vocabulary words.

1. DOGNIZ _______________: sleeping lightly; napping
2. STEGNUG _______________: small chunks of gold
3. WOLSH _______________: long wailing cries
4. RETHROB _______________: male’s relation to other children of his parents
5. SERTSSEL _______________: disturbed; not peaceful or quiet
6. STEPOID _______________: minerals present in soil or water
7. DREAMO _______________: wandered; traveled to no specific destination
8. NIPECROUP _______________: animal with sharp, prickly quills

B. Use the clues to solve the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

1. Buck heard a ___ (hyphenated word) chant coming from the camp.
4. Having little to do, Buck spent time ___ lazily.
5. The arrows in Hans’s back made him look like a ___.
7. Buck heard the ___ of the wolves in the forest.
8. Buck grew ___ when he stayed in camp too long.

DOWN

2. ___ brought back from the lost gold mine were unlike any others.
3. Buck thought of the wolf as his wild ___.
4. Thornton found a rich ___ of gold in a river valley.
6. Finding Thornton dead, Buck ___ around the camp.
Answer the questions in your own words. Write in complete sentences.

1. Why did Thornton and his partners sled 70 miles up the Yukon?

2. Why did the partners “search no farther” when they reached the river valley?

3. Why did Buck grow restless in camp?

4. Why didn’t Buck attack the timber wolf he met in the creek bed?

5. Why did Buck always return to camp after running with the wolves?

6. Why was Buck filled with rage when he reached the center of the camp?

7. Why did the Yeehats begin shooting one another with their arrows?

8. Why did Buck “feel an emptiness which food could not fill”?